

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure for use with a computer mouse having a palm portion and two lateral opposite sides, said structure comprising:

a) a palm member dimensioned and shaped to fit over the palm portion of the computer mouse;

b) a thumb guide extending from said palm member;

c) a finger guide extending from said palm member and spaced from said thumb guide, said finger guide being spaced from said thumb guide by an amount approximately equal to the distance between the thumb and little finger of the hand of the intended user when the hand is in an open relaxed position so that the structure supports the user's hand in an open relaxed position and said guides being positioned such that the mouse may be moved and lifted without said user's thumb and finger gripping the two lateral opposite sides thereof; and

d) means for attaching said structure to an existing computer mouse.

2. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein at least one of said thumb guide and said finger guide is disposed generally above a side of said mouse.

3. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein:
said guides are generally outwardly and downwardly opening, arcuate
flanges.

4. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein
said guides are rings.

5. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein
said means for attaching comprise adhesive means.

6. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein:
said palm member is generally curved and shaped to support an average
adult palm when the hand is in an open relaxed position.

7. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein:
said palm member, said thumb guide, and said finger guide are formed as
an integral plastic member.

8. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 7, wherein:
said palm member is at least partially covered with an absorbent fabric.

9. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein both of said thumb and finger supports are disposed generally above opposite lateral sides of said mouse.

10. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 4, additionally including means for adjusting the diameter of said thumb and finger rings.

11. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein said palm portion has an outline with a hand.

12. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 11, wherein said outline of said hand is recessed in said palm.

13. (Original) A thumb and finger guide structure according to claim 1, wherein said palm portion has two downwardly depending legs positioned and dimensioned to straddle said mouse and including means mounted thereon for affixing said legs to said mouse.

14. (Original) A computer mouse assembly comprising:

a computer mouse having a palm portion and two opposite lateral sides;

and

spaced-apart thumb and finger guides attachable to said computer mouse, said finger guide being spaced from said thumb guide by an amount approximately equal to the distance between the thumb and the little finger of the hand of the intended user when the hand is in an open relaxed position so that the guides positions the user's hand in an open relaxed position and said guides being positioned such that the mouse may be moved and lifted without said user's thumb and finger gripping the two opposite lateral sides thereof.

15. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, comprising a palm member dimensioned and shaped to fit over the palm portion of the computer mouse and which is attachable to said computer mouse, said thumb and finger guides being attachable to said mouse via said palm member.

16. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, wherein at least one of said thumbs and said finger supports is disposed is generally above a lateral side of said mouse.

17. (Original) The computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, wherein: said guides are generally outwardly and downwardly opening, arcuate flanges.

18. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, wherein: said guides are rings.

19. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, wherein: said palm member is generally curved and shaped to support an average adult palm when the hand is in an open relaxed position.

20. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 18, wherein both of said thumb and finger guides are disposed generally above opposite lateral sides of said mouse.

21. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 18, additionally including means for adjusting the diameter of said thumb and finger rings.

22. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 14, wherein said palm portion has an outline with a hand.

23. (Original) A computer mouse assembly according to claim 22, wherein said outline of said hand is recessed in said palm portion.